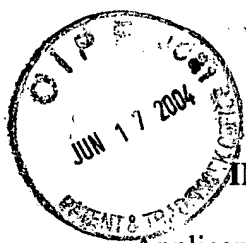


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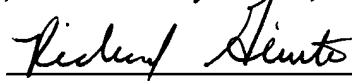
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Stephen J. TODD and Michael KILIAN
Serial No: 10/762,043
Confirmation. No.: 4484
Filed: January 21, 2004
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE MODIFICATION OF A
RETENTION PERIOD FOR DATA IN A STORAGE SYSTEM

Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2171

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 14th day of June, 2004.



Signature

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows: